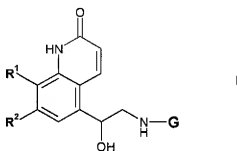


Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. - 20. (Cancelled)

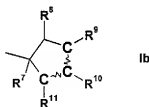
21. (NEW) A compound of formula I:



in free or salt or solvate form, where

R¹ is hydroxy and R² is hydrogen;

G is a group having the formula Ib:



C~C denotes C=C or CH-CH;

R⁷ and R⁸ are both hydrogen;

R⁹ and R¹⁰ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, or R⁹ and R¹⁰ together form a C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl or C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkenyl, and in either case wherein R⁹ and R¹⁰ are optionally substituted by C₁-C₁₀ alkyl; and

R¹¹ is a C₃-C₁₅ carbocyclic group or C₁-C₁₀ alkyl substituted by a C₃-C₁₅ carbocyclic group.

22. (NEW) The compound according to claim 21, wherein:

R¹ is hydroxy and R² is hydrogen;

C~C denotes C=C or CH-CH;

R⁷ and R⁸ are both hydrogen;

R⁹ and R¹⁰ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl, or R⁹ and R¹⁰ together form a C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl or C₃-C₆ cycloalkenyl, and in either case wherein R⁹ and R¹⁰ are optionally substituted by C₁-C₄ alkyl; and

R¹¹ is a C₃-C₁₀ carbocyclic or C₁-C₁₀ alkyl substituted by a C₃-C₁₀ carbocyclic group.

23. (NEW) The compound according to claim 22, wherein R¹¹ is a C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl.

24. (NEW) The compound according to claim 22, wherein R¹¹ is a C₁-C₁₀ alkyl substituted by an unsaturated C₅-C₈ carbocyclic group.

25. (NEW) The compound according to claim 21 that is:

5-[R-2-(1S,2S-2-Cyclohexylcyclopentylamino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one;

5-[R-2-(1R,2R-2-cyclohexylcyclopentylamino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one;

5-[R-2-(1R,2R-bicyclopentyl-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one; or

5-[R-2-(1R,2R-2-Benzylcyclopentylamino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one.

26. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 21.

27. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 21 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

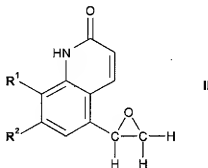
28. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 21 and a therapeutically effective amount of another drug substance selected from the group consisting of an anti-inflammatory, a bronchodilator, an antihistamine, an immunosuppressive and an anti-tussive.

29. (NEW) A method of treating a patient with a condition which is prevented or alleviated by activation of the β_2 -adrenoreceptor by administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 21.

30. (NEW) A method of treating a patient with obstructive or inflammatory airways disease by administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 21.

31. (NEW) A process for the preparation of a compound of claim 21 in free or salt or solvate form comprising:

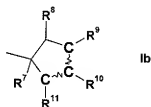
(A) reacting a compound of formula II:



or a protected form thereof wherein R^1 and R^2 are as defined in claim 21, with a compound of formula III:



where G is a group of formula Ib:

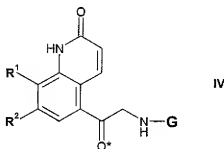


or a protected form thereof wherein R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined in claim 21;
and

(B) recovering the resultant compound of formula I in free or salt or solvate form.

32. (NEW) A process for the preparation of a compound of claim 21 in free or salt or solvate form comprising:

(A) reducing a compound of formula IV:



or a protected form thereof wherein R^1 , R^2 and G are as defined in claim 21, to convert the indicated keto group into $-CH(OH)-$; and

(B) recovering the resultant compound of formula I in free or salt or solvate form.